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90/1742

Attorney Docket No. 29195-8173US1  
Semitool Ref No. P02-0008

Express Mail Label EV335521230US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: RANDY HARRIS ET AL.

APPLICATION No.: 10/080,915

FILED: FEBRUARY 22, 2002

FOR: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
MANUALLY AND AUTOMATICALLY  
PROCESSING MICROELECTRONIC  
WORKPIECES**

EXAMINER: DONALD R. VALENTINE

ART UNIT: 1742

CONF. No: 7799

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Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of  
Application Filing or Before First Action – 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

This information disclosure is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever occurs last [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)]. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

☒ Copies of the following references are enclosed:

- ☒ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by asterisks
- ☐ The following:

☐ Copies of the following references can be found in parent U.S. Application No. :

- ☐ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by asterisks
- ☐ The following:



☐

The following references are not in English. For each such reference, the undersigned has enclosed (i) a translation of the reference; (ii) a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office or International Searching Authority citing the reference, (iii) a copy of a reference which appears to be an English-language counterpart, or (iv) an English-language abstract for the reference prepared by a third party. Applicant has not verified that the translation, English-language counterpart or third-party abstract is an accurate representation of the teachings of the non-English reference, though, and reserves the right to demonstrate otherwise.

- ☐ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by ampersands
- ☐ The following:

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3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h))

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the cited information is, or is considered to be, material to patentability. In addition, applicant does not admit that any enclosed item of information constitutes prior art to the subject invention and specifically reserves the right to demonstrate that any such reference is not prior art.

4. Fee Payment

No fees are believed due because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action.

- ☐ Applicant further submits that no fee is due in light of the following certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one):
  - ☐ In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
  - ☐ In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby states that no item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c), more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.



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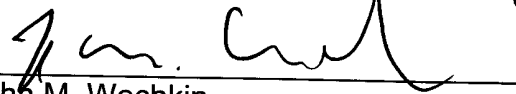
However, should the Commissioner determine that fees are due in order for this Information Disclosure Statement to be considered, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

5. Patent Term Adjustment (37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d))

- ☐ The undersigned states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d).

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: Oct. 15, 2003

  
John M. Wechkin  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number	10/080,915
Confirmation Number	7799
Filing Date	February 22, 2002
First Named Inventor	Randy Harris
Group Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Donald R. Valentine
Attorney Docket No.	29195-8173US1

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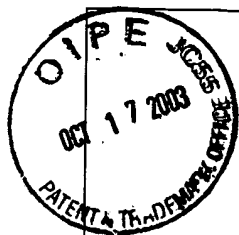
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)			
		US2001/0032788		Woodruff et al.	10/25/01	
		US2001/0043856		Woodruff et al.	11/22/01	
		US2002/0008037		Wilson et al.	01/24/02	
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		US2002/0096508		Weaver et al.	07/25/02	
		US2002/0102156		Woodruff et al.	08/01/02	
		US2002/0125141		Wilson et al.	09/12/02	
		US2002/0139678		Wilson et al.	10/03/02	
		US2003/0127337		Hanson et al.	07/10/03	
		US2003/0141185		Wilson et al.	07/31/03	
		US2003/0159277		Harris et al.	08/28/03	
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		5,372,293		Corlay et al.	12/13/94	
		5,509,772		Doche	04/23/96	
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		6,091,498		Hanson et al.	07/18/00	
		6,228,232		Woodruff et al.	05/08/01	
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		6,288,561		Leedy	09/11/01	
		6,303,010		Woodruff et al.	10/16/01	
		6,309,520		Woodruff et al.	10/30/01	
		6,309,524		Woodruff et al.	10/30/01	
		6,471,913		Weaver et al.	10/29/02	
		6,569,297		Wilson et al.	05/27/03	

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DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application(s).

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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		Office	NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)				
		WO	99/47731		Semitool, Inc.	09/23/99		
		WO	99/46065		Semitool, Inc.	09/16/99		
		WO	00/61837		Semitool, Inc.	01/20/00		
		WO	00/02675		Semitool, Inc.	10/19/00		
		WO	00/61498		Semitool, Inc.	10/19/00		
		WO	02/04886		Semitool, Inc.	01/17/02		

**OTHER PRIOR ART-NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T

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